

Don Bowen

District No. 8 - Anderson-Oconee
Counties
1176 Embassy Drive
Anderson, SC 29625



2013-2014/15
245641
306-C Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Tel. (803) 734-3038

Committee:

Education and Public Works

House of Representatives

State of South Carolina

August 1, 2013

Mr. David A. Wright, Chairman
SC Public Service Commission
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29210

Dear David:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I received from Mr. Gary E. Walsh with Regulatory Consulting and Governmental Affairs regarding Utility Services of South Carolina. This company services a small subdivision in the district that I represent and we have had nothing but problems with this company—their service, their water and their attitude. The pipes are old; the water is constantly dirty and the people are extremely disgruntled with the service they are receiving from this company. In no way, shape or form do I condone the raising of their water rates and I am currently working to get parallel lines run in that neighborhood from the Sandy Springs Water District who currently serves me at \$15 a month. I have excellent service and the cheapest water rate in Anderson. Please don't let this happen to these people and help me get them the best service that is available which is Sandy Springs at a reasonable rate. Please advise me of any movement by this company toward this rate increase and I will be glad to provide you with any information you may need.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Don C. Bowen".

Don C. Bowen
SC House of Representatives
District # 8

DCB/lg

Enclosure: Letter

cc: Honorable Brian White

RECEIVED
AUG 07 2013
MAIL ROOM
SC

Walsh
Consulting
Group,
L.L.C.

GARY E. WALSH
Regulatory Consulting & Governmental Affairs
Post Office Box 23158
Columbia, SC 29224-3158

Office 803-254-5505
Cell 803-767-8393

Fax 803-254-5545
walshconsultingllc@sc.rr.com

July 26, 2013

Representative Don C. Bowen
1176 Embassy Drive
Anderson, SC 29625

Dear Representative Bowen:

On June 28, 2013 my client Utility Services of South Carolina (USSC) filed a request to increase the current water and wastewater rates for our customers located within your house district.

I have enclosed a summary of the rate filing and if I can be of assistance in responding to contacts you may receive from your constituents please feel free to contact me at 803-767-8393.

USSC understands that no one likes rate increases, certainly in difficult economic times. USSC makes every effort to keep operating expenses to a minimum while maintaining a system that produces safe and reliable service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary E. Walsh

Enclosure:

GARY WALSH
Regulatory Consulting & Governmental AffairsPost Office Box 23158
Columbia, SC 29224-3158Office 803-254-5505
Cell 803-767-8393Fax 803-254-5545
walshconsultingllc@sc.rr.com**Utilities Services of South Carolina Rate Filing Summary**

- . On June 28, 2013 Utilities Services of South Carolina (USSC) will file a rate case to request an increase in the current water and wastewater rates with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina.
- . The last USSC rate request was filed in 2007 and was based on cost incurred through 2006.
- . The main drivers for this rate request include increases in operation and maintenance expenses and investments in excess of \$5,500,000 since the last rate filing in 2007.
- . USSC is seeking an increase of 47% in annual water and wastewater revenues. The proposed rate increase is intended to generate adequate revenue to keep the system in compliance with increasing federal, state and local regulations as well as to earn a return on USSC's investment in the system.
- . The average residential water treatment customer would see an increase in their monthly charge from \$40.93 to \$59.98 should the filing be approved.
- . The average water distribution customer would see an increase in their monthly charge from \$28.91 to \$42.36 should the filing be approved.
- . Residential wastewater customer would see an increase in their monthly charge from \$41.39 to 65.31 should the filing be approved.
- . Following an evidentiary hearing the PSC will issue a final decision in December 2013.
- . USSC understands that no one like rate increases, certainly in difficult economic times. USSC makes every effort to keep operating expenses to a minimum while maintaining a system that produces safe and reliable service.